AUG 25 2000 AG

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AUG 28 2000

TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

Assignee's Docket No.: 7204

Group Art Unit: 2764

Serial No.: 09/020,699

Examiner: Chinor M. Lee

Filing Date: February 9, 1998

Title: Method and Apparatus for)

Determining the Validity)

of a Data Processing

Transaction

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20232

sir:

Please cancel claim 20, without prejudice.

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the letter mailed on July 21, 2000.

In response to the assertion that the Notice of Appeal and the previous Amendment were signed by a party who is not of record, Applicant points out that MPEP § 1205(e) states that a notice of appeal does not require a signature. Also, 37 CFR § 1.191(b) states:

(b) The signature requirement of § 1.33 does not apply to a notice of appeal filed under this section.

In response to any assertion that the previous Amendment was